

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 2 schematically shows stratospheric platform 10 as a stratospheric flying object according to an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in FIG. 2, stratospheric platform 10 comprises flying object body 11 in the form of an airship envelope for use in the stratosphere, mount 12 suspended from a central region of flying object body 11, and despun platform unit 13 supported on mount 12. It is assumed that an axis oriented to the zenith direction through flying object body 11 staying still in ~~the air~~ space is represented as a Z-axis, an axis lying in a plane which includes the longitudinal axis of the flying object and extending perpendicular to the Z-axis is represented as an X-axis, and an axis extending perpendicularly to both the X-axis and the Z-axis is represented as a Y-axis. Despun platform unit 13 can continuously be rotated about the Z-axis and can also be changed in attitude through respective angular ranges about the X-axis and the Y-axis by an actuating mechanism (not shown in FIG. 2).